  
UNESCO-Japan Prize on   
Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)  
  
*Explanatory note for the 2023 call for nominations*

1. Background
2. ***What is ESD?***

“ESD empowers learners with knowledge, skills, values and attitudes to take informed decisions and make responsible actions for environmental integrity, economic viability and a just society empowering people of all genders, for present and future generations, while respecting cultural diversity. ESD is a lifelong learning process and an integral part of quality education that enhances cognitive, social and emotional and behavioural dimensions of learning. It is holistic and transformational and encompasses learning content and outcomes, pedagogy and the learning environment itself. ESD is recognized as a key enabler of all SDGs and achieves its purpose by transforming society.” *(Education for Sustainable Development: A Roadmap, UNESCO 2020)*

1. ***Establishment of the Prize***

The Prize was established by the UNESCO Executive Board in 2014, and has been awarded five times since the first edition in 2015. The Prize was renewed in November 2019 for a period of six years (2020-2025) with a biennial cycle. It consists of three awards of US $50,000 for each recipient.

Within the framework of “Education for Sustainable Development: Towards achieving the SDGs (ESD for 2030)”, adopted by the 40th session of the UNESCO General Conference, and acknowledged by the UN General Assembly in 2019, the renewed UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development honours institutions or organizations for outstanding projects or programmes undertaken in the field of ESD. The Prize also recognizes the role of ESD as an integral element of Sustainable Development Goal 4 on Education, and as key enabler of all 17 SDGs.

1. Nominations

Nominations can be made by Governments of UNESCO Member States via their **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO, in consultation with the National Commission for UNESCO**, as well as by **non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in official partnership** with UNESCO. Nominations must focus on a specific ESD project or programme. Each Member State or NGO can make up to three nominations for any edition of the Prize. If more than three nominations are submitted by a Member State or NGO, the submission will not be considered. Member States are invited to closely coordinate between the Permanent Delegation and the National Commission. Self-nominations are not accepted.

1. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

The three winners will be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of recommendations made by an independent international jury, consisting of five experts from all geographical regions. To be eligible, the project/programme of the nominee must:

* be ongoing and have already been running for **at least four years**
* show presence of evidence of **results** and a **high impact** relative to the invested resources
* be **replicable and scalable**
* contribute to **one or more of the five priority action areas** of the ESD for 2030 framework (i.e. advancing policy, transforming learning and training environments, developing capacities of educators and trainers, mobilizing youth, accelerating sustainable solutions at local level).

Eligible projects will then be assessed by the jury on the basis of the following three criteria:

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| 1. ***Transformation:* *practices ESD as transformative education in support of sustainable development, leading to individual and social change***   ESD empowers learners to transform themselves and the society they live in. The project/programme of the nominee should therefore enable learners to bring about changes with a view to building a more just, peaceful and sustainable world. This can mean, for example, taking action against climate change, changing one’s consumption patterns, developing social entrepreneurship and sustainable livelihoods, or supporting those struggling against poverty.   1. ***Integration: addresses the three dimensions of sustainable development (society, economy, environment) in an integrated way***   Sustainable development calls for the integration of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development. The project/programme of the nominee should be in line with this definition of sustainable development. It should address the three dimensions (society, economy, environment), and help learners understand the interdependence between them and act accordingly.   1. ***Innovation:*** ***demonstrates an innovative approach to ESD***   Sustainable development requires going beyond ‘business as usual’ and ‘out-of-the-box’ thinking. The project/programme of the nominee should demonstrate an innovative and inspirational approach to ESD, be it in the themes it covers, the methodology it employs, or the way the learning environment is designed. Reaching out to sectors beyond education and working with new partners can also be a sign of innovation. |

1. Submission Procedure

* The nomination form must be completed online in **English or French** via an online platform accessible at the following link: https://unesco.sharepoint.com/sites/committees/ESD-Prize/.
* Nominations must be submitted online by the **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO** of the concerned Member State, or by an **NGO in official partnership with UNESCO**.\* Self-nominations are not accepted.
* Attention should be paid to presenting the project/programme of the nominee in a **clear and structured way**, following the instructions given in the form and respecting the indicated word limit. All **supporting material** (e.g. publications, photos, videos) must be transmitted electronically through the online system. Kindly note that each Member State or NGO may not submit more than three nominations.
* Nominations must be submitted in the online system by the concerned Permanent Delegations, or the NGO, by **midnight of 21 April 2023** (UTC+1, Paris time). An automatic notification message will be sent to the official or registered e-mail address of the Permanent Delegation/the National Commission or the NGO to this end.

**Für die nationale Vorauswahl: Bitte füllen Sie den folgenden Fragebogen auf Englisch aus und senden Ihre Bewerbung bis spätestens 22.02.2023 an die folgende E-Mailadresse:** [**bne@unesco.de**](mailto:bne@unesco.de)**.**

**Bitte beachten Sie, dass sich die unten angegebenen Zeichenbegrenzungen inklusive Leerzeichen verstehen. Bitte überschreiten Sie diese Begrenzung nicht.**

**Bei Rückfragen wenden Sie sich bitte an Frau Bianca Bilgram,** [**bilgram@unesco.de**](mailto:bilgram@unesco.de)**,   
Tel.: +49 228 60497-214.**

**UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development**

**2023 Call for Nominations**

**Nomination Form**This form is for information purposes only. All nominations must be submitted online via a platform accessible at the following link: [https://unesco.sharepoint.com/sites/committees/ESD-Prize/](https://unesco.sharepoint.com/sites/committees/ESD-Prize).

*Please present the project/programme of the nominee in a clear and structured way.  
Kindly make sure that all boxes of the form are completed according to the instructions   
given, respecting the indicated limit of characters (including spaces).   
Concerning the word limit, please note that spaces should be included in counting and any text exceeding the limit will block the online submission.*

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| **1. NOMINEE** | |
| Type of nominee: | Governmental body (National/Sub-national/Local)  International organization  Civil society organization  Private sector  Media  Academia/research institution  Education institution  Other: [*Please specify*] |
| Name of nominee |  |
| Name of contact person |  |
| Function | *[e.g. Director, Project Manager]* |
| Email address |  |
| Telephone | *[with country code]* |
| Mobile number | *[with country code]* |
| Postal address |  |
| Nominee’s country |  |
| Nominee’s region |  |
| Description of the nominee | *[Please provide a brief description using* ***a maximum of 700 characters including spaces****.]* |
| Website |  |
| **2. PROJECT/PROGRAMME** | |
| **a. Project/Programme title** | |
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| **b. Project/Programme website** | |
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| **c. Project/Programme objective** | |
| *[Clearly state the overall objective of the project/programme using* ***a maximum of 200 characters including spaces****.]* | |
| **d. Abstract** | |
| *[Explain the objective of the project/programme and its methodology using* ***a maximum of 900 characters including spaces****. Please include all important information in a structured way.]* | |
| **e. Contribution to the ESD for 2030 framework** | |
| Tick one or more of the priority action areas of the ESD for 2030 framework to which the project*/programme* mainly contributes:  Advancing policy  Transforming learning and training environments  Developing capacities of educators and trainers  Mobilizing youth  Accelerating sustainable solutions at local level | |
| **f. Main target group(s)** | |
| Tick one or more of the groups that the project/programme has been mainly targeting:  Governments (National/Sub-national/Local)  Intergovernmental organizations  Civil society organizations  Private sector  Media  Academia/research institutions  Education institutions  Educators  Youth  Other (please specify): | |
| **g. Geographical coverage** | |
| Tick one of the geographical areas and indicate one or more countries that the project/programme has been covering:  International  Regional  National  Local  Covered countries: | |
| **h. Number of beneficiaries to date** | |
| *[Indicate the number of current and previous beneficiaries]* | |
| **i. Project***/***Programme duration** | |
| *[Indicate start and expected end date. Please note that only projects/programmes having been running for at least four years will be considered.]* | |
| **j. Funding** | |
| *[Explain the current and planned funding source(s) of the project/programme using* ***a maximum of 250 characters including spaces****.]* | |
| **k. Annual project/programme cost** | |
| *[Specify the amount for 2020 in USD]* | |
| **l.** **Number of staff** | |
| *[Specify the number of staff involved in the project/programme in 2020]* | |
| **m. Future strategy** | |
| *[Clearly describe the future strategy of the project/programme using* ***a maximum of 700 characters including spaces****. Indicate information such as follow-up plan, scaling-up strategy, target groups, duration and budget.]* | |

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| **n. Achievements and impact** |
| *[Provide evidence of achievements and the impact that the project/programme has had so far, using concrete information such as feedback or quotes by participants, material or publications produced, number and type of individuals or organizations trained, press coverage, previous awards received, number of views of the project/programme website, using* ***a maximum of 900 characters including spaces.****]* |
| **o. Contribution to the SDGs** |
| *[Describe, using* ***a maximum of 700 characters including spaces****, how the project/programme contributes to the implementation of one or several of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).]* |
| **p. Transformation** |
| *[Describe how the project/programme practices ESD as transformative education in support of sustainable development, using* ***a maximum of 900 characters including spaces****. Transformative education means that ESD empowers learners to transform themselves and the society they live in. This can mean, for example, taking action against climate change, changing one’s consumption patterns, developing social entrepreneurship and sustainable livelihoods, or supporting those struggling against poverty.]* |
| **q. Integration** |
| *[Describe how the project/programme addresses the three dimensions of sustainable development (society, economy, environment) in an integrated way, using* ***a maximum of 900 characters including spaces****.]* |
| **r. Innovation** |
| *[Specify how the project/programme demonstrates an innovative approach to ESD, using* ***a maximum of 900 characters including spaces****.]* |
| **3. SUPPORTING MATERIALS** |
| **a. Web links (websites, publications, videos, photo galleries)** |
| *[Provide up to 10 relevant web links with a short description.]* |
| **b. Supporting documents** |
| *[Upload any supporting documents not available online. Kindly note that you can attach a maximum of 5 files and the maximum size per attachment should be 350 MB.]* |